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PTO/SB/21 (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/709,305	
	Filing Date	April 28, 2004	
	First Named Inventor	Katsuhiro Itakura	
	Art Unit	(to be assigned)	
	Examiner Name	(to be assigned)	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	21	Attorney Docket Number	39.036

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Judge Patent Firm
Signature	
Date	August 12, 2004

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.			
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

App. No. : 10/709,305
Applicant : Katsuhiro Itakura
Filed : April 28, 2004
Tech. Cntr./Art Unit : (To be assigned)
Examiner : (To be assigned)

Docket No. : 39.036
Customer No. : 29453

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This constitutes an Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. The attached documents listed on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08A are hereby brought to the Examiner's attention in the patent application identified above.

REMARKS

All of the presently submitted references, i.e., Cite Nos. F1 through F3 as listed on Form PTO/SB/08A, are not in English.

Concise Explanation of Relevance/Copy of Translation **Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)**

A concise explanation of the relevance of each of Cite Nos. F1 and F2 is incorporated into the specification in the present application in paragraph [0005].

Furthermore, English abstracts of the three presently submitted references are available on the Japanese Patent Office website through Patent Abstracts of

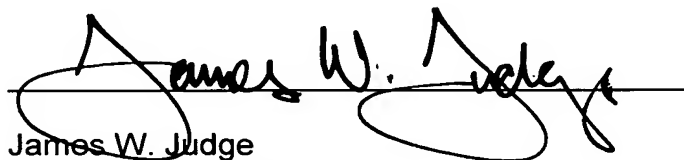
App. No. 10/709,305
IDS Submission

Japan (PAJ), and a copy of the corresponding abstract is attached to the back of each reference. (Note that Cite Nos. F1 and F2 are each an issued Japanese *patent*, as opposed to a Japanese unexamined patent application publication, which is what Cite No. F3 is. Nevertheless, the English abstracts for Cite Nos. F1 and F2 are taken from, and numbered according to, the published corresponding patent *application*.)

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider these references, and to indicate so on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08A and make the document of record in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

August 12, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. Judge", is written over a horizontal line.

James W. Judge
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/709,305
				Filing Date	April 28, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Katsuhiko Itakura
				Art Unit	(To be assigned)
				Examiner Name	(To be assigned)
				Attorney Docket Number	39,036
Sheet	1	of	1		

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ⁵	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ² (if known)				
	F1	JP-3,232,963-B2	09-21-2001	Hitachi Ltd		✓
	F2	JP-3,340,021-B2	08-16-2002	Senju Metal & Matsushita		✓
	F3	JP-S61-051951-A	03-14-1986	NEC Corp		✓

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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